



Update on Canada's Medical Isotope Activities

2013 Topical Meeting on Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) Technological Development

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Purpose



To provide an overview of the Government of Canada's policies and programs for securing supply of technetium-99m (Tc-99m) for Canadians



Canada's isotope strategy has been constant since 2010



- Committed to increasing the security of isotope supply in Canada in the long term
- Investing in maintaining safe and reliable isotope production by the National Research Universal (NRU) reactor until 2016
- Investing in non-reactor-based production to:
 - Diversify sources of isotope supply
 - Create a truly commercial market
 - Reduce radioactive waste produced
 - Eliminate the use of Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU)
- Working with the international community to better coordinate outages and production of medical isotopes



Long-term strategy centres on non-reactor-based technologies



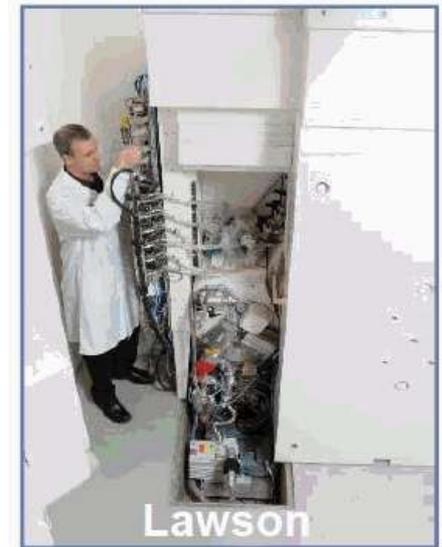
- In 2010, the Government announced its intention to cease production of Mo-99 from the NRU by 2016
 - Move away from government involvement in isotope production
- From 2010 to 2012, Canada invested \$35 million in the Non-reactor-based Isotope Supply Contribution Program (NISP)
 - Supported the development of production of Mo-99/Tc-99m using cyclotrons and linear accelerators
 - TRIUMF (cyclotron)
 - Advanced Cyclotron Systems Inc. (ACSI) (cyclotron)
 - Canadian Light Source Inc. (CLSI) (linear accelerator)
 - Prairie Isotope Production Enterprise (PIPE) (linear accelerator)



NISP Project: TRIUMF - Cyclotron



- **Principal Investigators: Dr. Paul Schaffer and Dr. Thomas Ruth**
- TRIUMF and its partners, the BC Cancer Agency, Lawson Health Research Institute and the Centre for Probe Development and Commercialization (CPDC) have combined their expertise to established Tc-99m production on three different types of cyclotrons in Canada.



NISP Project: Advance Cyclotron Systems Inc. - Cyclotron



- **Principal Investigator: Dr. Alexander Zyuzin**
- ACSI and its partners, Hospitalier Universitaire de Sherbrooke / Sherbrooke Molecular Imaging Centre (CHUS/CIMS) and the Edmonton Radiopharmaceutical Center (ERC) at the University of Alberta, have demonstrated the direct production of Tc-99m on ACSI's TR-24, 24 MeV cyclotrons through the establishment of two pilot sites.



ACSI, in Richmond, British Columbia



CHUS/CIMS in Sherbrooke, Quebec



ERC in Edmonton, Alberta

NISP Project: Canadian Light Source Inc.– Linear Accelerator



- **Principal Investigator:
Dr. Mark de Jong**
- CLSI has constructed a pilot production facility at CLSI for a high-power linear accelerator-based production of Tc-99m via the transmutation of molybdenum-100 (Mo-100). The project has demonstrated that suitable Mo-99 and Tc-99m can be produced.



Dr. Mark de Jong at the CLSI facility

NISP Project: Prairie Isotope Production Inc. – Linear Accelerator



- **Principal Investigator:
Dr. Kennedy Mang'era and
Chris Saunders**
- PIPE, comprised of the University of Winnipeg, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) and Acsion Industries Inc., with a focus on target and converter optimization has demonstrated the feasibility of linear accelerator-based production of Tc-99m via the transmutation of molybdenum-100 (Mo-100).



PIPE team at the Health Science Center, WHRA :
(right to left) Dana Erickson, Dr. John Wilkins, Brock Wright, Kennedy Mang'era, James Currie, John Barnard and David Walker

NISP achieved its objectives



- The NISP, which funding ended March 31, 2012, has met its objectives:
 - Provided the funds for infrastructure and equipment upgrades
 - Establishing the technical potential of these technologies
- Projects have demonstrated:
 - Efficient radiochemical separation of Tc-99m has been achieved
 - Progress on Mo-100 recycling
 - Progress on target development
 - Demonstrated Tc-99m production
 - Radionuclidic purity of Tc-99m measured and understood
 - Animal studies and first human trials underway

However, more work is required



- Optimization of product yield (balance of quantity vs. quality)
- Increasing efficiency of separations
- Pre-clinical and clinical validation
- Meeting regulatory requirements

Isotope Technology Acceleration Program



- Canada has launched a conditionally repayable program – the Isotope Technology Acceleration Program (ITAP) – an investment of \$25 million over four years (2012-2016)
 - To further advance cyclotron and linear accelerator technologies for the production of Tc-99m
- The ITAP is designed to leverage and build on the progress made to date under the NISP
- In February 2013, the Government announced the signing of contribution agreements
 - University of Alberta (\$7 million - cyclotron)
 - TRIUMF (\$7 million – cyclotron)
 - Prairie Isotope Production Enterprise (\$7.46 million – linear accelerator)



Going Forward



- 2013 – 2016: Advancement of non-reactor-based technologies
- 2016 – NRU expected to cease production of Mo-99

